TRI-STATES GAZETTE

Issue #3 Spring 1996

Proudly Published by: Reasonably Honest Rick
522 N. McCarran Blvd., Suite #202, Sparks, NV 89431

A SLIGHT CAUSE FOR ALARM

Don't be overly alarmed, but civilization as we know it is about to come crashing down around our ears. And there is nothing that can be done to stop it. There are so many factors in the equation that we are on a runaway train, on a dead end track, with no engineer.

In no particular order, here are just a few of the factors in the equation: 1) economic, 2)political, 3) over population, 4) shortage of economical resources, 5) loss of arable land, 6) shortage of potable water, 7) degradation of the environment, 8) erosion of family and personable values, 9) warlike nature of man, and 10) religious differences. You get the picture! Further explanation of each factor will follow:

Economic: The gap between the upper 5% and the bottom 45% of the population in these "United States" has never been as great or changed as fast as it has in the last decade. The average teacher in this country makes approximately $30,000 per year. Barry Bonds of the San Francisco Giants makes an average of $66,000 per inning of a baseball game. The total assets of the average American homeowner is somewhere around $250,000.00 if the mortgage is paid in full. Bill Gates, President of Micro-Soft has a personal fortune of over $8,000,000,000.00 (this is what eight billion dollars looks like written out).

Political: Please note, no matter what you may believe, under this factor will be no mention of the New World Order, the United Nations, or the World Bank. Because if there is a New World Order in the offing, things will be even worse than projected. Our beloved U. S. President tried to send $40,000,000,000.00 (forty billion dollars) to Mexico. This would cost the average American family consists of five, $9,000.00 per family, assuming a population of approximately 280 million Americans. That is approximately four months wages for me. However, the government cannot make a worthwhile investment in our future generations by putting computers in all classrooms. The U.S. government is sending almost a million dollars a day to the former U.S.S.R. to continue their nuclear weapons research. But, what will happen if you "owe" the I.R.S. $500? On December 14, 1995, in two separate bills, the Senate voted to pass 92.8 billion dollars for various government agencies. On December 13, one day before, a House sub-committee voted to approve a measure that allows businesses the option of either paying overtime or giving a worker time off at a later date. How important is overtime to your monthly budget? (from Idaho Statesman, Boise, Idaho; December 17, 1995). Then we have people in government like Donna Shalala, Secretary of Human Services, who makes makes statements such as the one about the U.S. not sending the best or brightest to serve in Vietnam, and Laura Tyson, another cabinet member, who stated that the federal deficit was a healthy sign.

Overpopulation: This probably does not need further explanation.

Shortage of Affordable Resources: This is a phrase for shortage of intelligence. There is a mindset among some of the leaders of the world that once it is used, it is gone. While this is not true, the days of sticking a pipe in the ground and hitting oil are long gone. Ponder this, what will the last gallon of gas or last tree be worth.

Loss of Arable Land: California farmers in the Imperial and San Juaquin Valleys have a problem, as do the farmers in Mexico south of Yuma, Arizona. There is such a constant increase in the salt content of their farmlands that the yield per acre has been dropping for years, and these are not isolated problems either. Now what would you pay for the last bushel of wheat? But, don't answer yet because we haven't even mentioned the thousands of acres lost daily to housing developments and strip malls.

Shortage of Potable Water: You may not be aware of this but, there a war going on in the western states, caused by the lack of potable water. The city of Los Angeles, California has already drained the Owens Valley of all its water. Los Angeles is also trying to steal water from the state of Arizona which can not afford to give up their own ration of Colorado River water because once these rights are relinquished, they can not be reacquired. Believe it or not there have been schemes to build pipelines from the Columbia River, on the Oregon-Washington border, and

even from the Yukon River in Alaska to Los Angeles. Concurrently, Nevada has the smallest ration of Colorado River water. The state has threatened to dam up all the tributaries to the Colorado River that flow through Nevada, such as the Virgin River, unless their ration is increased. Meanwhile, in Mexico. . . the Sea of Cortez, the body of water between Baja and the mainland, used to be fresh water. It was fed by clear Colorado River water. Now the small amount of water that reaches it is so salty that the system is unable to flush itself. The entire Sea of Cortez is becoming salty. The farmers and city dwellers along the entire length of the Colorado River system are responsible for the destruction of an entire, vast ecosystem! In the Casa Grande Valley of Arizona, so much water has been pumped out of the ground that the land level in some places has dropped over 10 feet with cracks five to six feet deep. What do you suppose the last glass of water in Los Angeles, Phoenix, or Las Vegas would be worth?

Degradation of the Environment: Few people realize that 2000 years ago the Sahara Desert was a vast grassland with interspaced forestlands. Now twenty centuries later, with constant overgrazing and other detrimental environmental practices the prevailing hot, dry winds blowing off the Saudi Arabian Peninsula have caused the entire area to become a vast wasteland that is still expanding. In times gone by, large numbers of birds migrated to the Western Hemisphere in the spring of each year. These visitors kept the insect population under control. In recent years, the people in the United States have experienced a enormous increase in the number of insect pests. Another example of this unchecked destruction is occurring in South America where the rain forest is being cut down at an ever increasing pace. This destruction is eliminating the winter habitat thus decreasing the number of birds and increasing the number of insect pests, causing more crops to be at risk. There is no way to break this chain with the current practices.

Erosion of Personal and Family Values: Newspaper headlines shock us with the stories of children killing their parents, parents killing their children, and children killing other children, and complete strangers killing each other just for the hell of it. In todays no fault world, more often than not it is society's fault. Does this sound like the "bad seed theory"? Recently, a young teenager was arrested for the crime of murder. The teen's father was outraged. Not because the son had killed another child, but because the police had the audacity to arrest his child. His concern may have been "imagine what the neighbors would think".

Warlike Nature of Man: Let's look at the scorecard so far. We have the Arabs versus the Israelis, Serbia versus Bosnia, Shi'ite Moslems versus the Sunni Moslems, Hindus versus Buddhists, Iran versus Iraq, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (BATF) versus everyone, to name a few. Believe me, it is much easier and in most cases more economical to eliminate your enemy than to sit down, reason, and negotiate with him and/or her.

Religious Differences: Our God is one of love, peace, and understanding. If one does not agree, the premise may be to slaughter the non-believers. The religion of Islam (Moslems) is a very strict code of personal behavior and social decency that in the vast majority of cases prohibit the taking of a life. But this may be hard to tell to a Libyan terrorist bent on destruction.

CORRECTIONS AND EXCUSES

First, I must ask your understanding for this issue being so late. Due to my other obligations time does get tight. I promise I will do the best I can to stay on schedule.

Second, in the last issue I stated that I would send a copy of issue #1 to all who asked for it unfortunately this is more than I can handle. I will incorporate articles from the first issue into future issues.

Third, we have made contact with at least one national orgainzation. We are still at the exploring and getting aquainted stage. We would like to do a profile on them at a later date. In the meantime, if anyone would like to make contact with this group enclose a self-addressed stamped postcard in your next letter and we will forward it to them.

TWO FREE PLUGS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE

Very few things are as important to our survival as knowledge. We believe the more knowledge you are able to assimilate, from the greatest number of sources, the greater the ultimate gain. At least this makes sense to us. We were contacted by Jim Dakin, 6735 South Lewis #189, Tulsa, OK 74135, publisher of the Walter Mittey Papers. A quick glance through the Winter 1995 issue shows articles about urban survival, interpreting current trends, why all survivalists should be anarchists, and stashing. At the very least, Dakin will make you stop and think. Is this not not a function of responsible journalism? A one-year subscription of bi-monthly is only $3.00. A great deal if you value intelligent thought. Be sure to tell him you heard about him through the TSG.

For those who are in search of whiz-bangs and creative fire power would be well advised to contact Hi-Vel, Inc. at P.O. Box 340, Delta, UT 84624. In addition to some very interesting ammunition, they offer trip flares, strobe flares, and other neat toys. We were treated with respect when we met them at recent gun show. Again, let them know you heard of them in the TSG.

THE "OH SHIT" EXERCISE

Editorial by RHR

So you are all set up and can survive on your resources for a while? Are you really sure? So was I, then on the 7th of November I was told to go home, there was no more work. I started a new job on December 7th, so it was exactly one month of no work. What an eye opener. The only two benefits of this experience are: 1) the education; and 2) the next time I move I will not have as much to move.

The assets I had on hand were all the things that I had accumulated over many years. I sure hated to part with many of these assets but they are all replaceable. I found that I had placed far more value on some things than they were worth.

To say that this caught me flatfooted would be a gross understatement. I have a heavy duty, one ton truck I couldn't use because the plates were expired. If the plates had been current I could have used the truck to hustle up a little money. Thinking very short term, I sold a .22 rifle which was a poor move. I could have used it to put meat on the table. Rabbit and squirrel taste great, thank you. Both of my chain saws had been sold the previous spring. So here I was in the middle of firewood season with no saw and a truck I could not use. Quit laughing. I bet you are not in as good shape as you might think. Want to find out?

Bank your entire paycheck for one month. Live off your assets. I guarantee that at the end of the month you will either be hungry, smarter, or divorced. At the end of this exercise, if you find that you had to part with some of your more valued assets you can now replace them with even better quality item from your now healthy bank account. You will hopefully find this exercise as educational and informative as I did.

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE BELIEVE

A surprising number of people responded to the A.S.G. letter even though they were not familiar with the Tri-State Philosophy. Quite a few asked for an explanation of the philosophy. At this stage it should be referred to as a philosophy instead of a theory. Our beliefs are based on a book, Out of the Ashes written in 1983 by William W. Johnstone and published by Kensington Publishing Corporation. The book's main character is Ben Raines who survives World War III only to find the world's remaining population is being held hostage by fear, ignorance, and various thugs. Determined to build something "out of the ashes", he spearheads an exodus to the northwest where the remnants of the population rebuild a society to their own liking. This society is based on common sense, common decency, and a strict but simple legal system. The legal system is based on the constitution, the Ten Commandments, and a very strong belief in the Golden Rule. When a person breaks the law, he is expected to know it because the laws are few and simple. There are no shades of grey. Rape, child molestation, and murder are all capitol crimes, period. Once found guilty beyond any shadow of doubt, the sentence of the court is swiftly carried out. Everyone in the Tri-States is expected to work and provide for themselves. Older folks are respected for the knowledge they have accumulated over a lifetime. Race relations are easy because racists are not allowed. While our philosophy does not even pretend to have all the answers,at least we have a definite starting place. When was the last time you heard a politician say that in public?

A NEW SOURCE YOU HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR

We realize that a few of our readers don't fully understand the TRI-STATES philosophy and that more than a few readers are having difficulties finding "OUT OF THE ASHES", the book our philosophy is based on. Guess what? We found a T-Ser that is a source. Contact Bob Kelly, 665 N, 125 W, LaVerkin, Utah, 84745. By now you know, enclose a S.A.S.E. and let him know you read the T.S.G.

DON'T BEAT US UP

This one is sure to get us in trouble with someone, but if we don't ask we don't get an answer. Have you ever noticed when a film clip of a disaster is shown on television, the wounded are always shown wearing dirty bandages? There must be a better way! If I took white sheets and tore them into strips, boiled them, air dried them, then sealed them in a freezer bag containing alcohol, would it work? Even if the strips were not completely sterile, they would still have to be better than the tail of someone's shirt. How about some feedback on this?

A FEW SELECT QUOTES

"I also work as a juvenile detention officer so I see first hand where our youth are headed. I try, but most of them are just buying time until adult jail. I even loan them my Johnstone books. The bad seed theory is alive and well in this guy! Kevin (Mich)

' "I am a special police officer as well as a L/E weapons instructor and feel that the way things are going, soon the criminal element will run rampant" Brian (Conn)

"I find that the changes that have taken place in the last several years (Post 1992) to be very disturbing. Many of the events that the Clinton Administration is trying to impose on the American people have parallels in the "Ashes" books written 10 years ago! " David (Va)

"It has been interesting to watch the impact that a work of fiction has had upon the direction of the development within the movement" Craig (Ill)

BLENDING IN, OR THE ART OF NOT BEING NOTICED

OK, I know this is silly and more than a little overblown, but bear with me for a minute. Now imagine this. You are in the boonies and the bad guys are after you. Even though you haven't spotted them you know where they are and they are closing in on you. You could say that this situation has a high pucker factor. Suddenly from the clearing ahead of you automatic weapons fire erupts and the enemy charges. They are all dressed like Ronald McDonald. What is wrong with this picture?

On the one hand, this get-up would be perfect if you were at a costume party. And if you were at the circus, it would be perfect camouflage. But in the vast majority of situations it would be inappropriate to say the least. Now let's look at the exact opposite of this. You are on foot, patrolling the hood, conditions are normal (?). If you want to blend in, what are you wearing? A Ronald McDonald outfit? If you are wearing cammies you might as well be.

You will never hear me say that under any circumstances cammies are not needed.At the proper time and place, they could even help save your life. But at the wrong time and place they are worse than useless. If you remember, right after the O.K.C. bombing, C.N.N. and the other networks made a cute game of trotting out a few blithering idiots dressed in cammies and interviewing them. After the idiots twitched, slobbered and blathered about the governments involvement in "weather control" experiments, Brokow, Jennings and others would smirk into the camera and describe the idiot as,snicker snicker, a patriot. Almost as if the word patriot rhymed with stupid.

Another thing to keep in mind is that if the situation is so desperate as to justify armed patrols, you can bet the military has their own patrols out. At that late stage in the game I doubt that they will be seen as saviors or heroes. More than likely they will be seen as representatives of a government that has a foot on everyones neck. Now wouldn't it be a real bitch if you were out trying to keep the scum under control and someone blew your head off by mistake?

The most important item in any survival plan is common sense. REMEMBER THAT CAMMIES ONLY WORK WHEN THEY HELP YOU BLEND INTO THE BACKGROUND. SOMETIMES A T-SHIRT AND BLUE JEANS WILL DO THE JOB EVEN BETTER.

ON BEING PREPARED

Let's all take a minute and see how our preparations are coming along. Rifle,check. Shotgun, check. Handgun, check. Back-up rifle, check. Back-up handgun, check. Riot shotgun, check. Food..."well gee, I must have at least 30 cans of chili in the top of my closet.And a hunnerd pounds of dried beans in the garage."Do you really think that 30 cans of chili are going to be all that you need? If so, you are going to die. More than likely shot by your buds while sitting around the campfire cleaning your weapon. Remember the scene from "Blazing Saddles"? How about water? Yes the rivers will still be running, but do you really want to risk your life? There are water filtration units on the market, but what about when the filters become clogged beyond use? We suggest that you do a little bit of studying and learn to make a still. It would be wise to learn to make both fire and solar powered models. Don't panic, it is really very easy. But you need to learn about them before you need them.

Has that gaping hole in your wisdom tooth healed up yet? I doubt it. It will probably be pretty miserable out there without the added fun of preventable pain, so it would be wise to get your dental needs taken care of now. If you wait, the next dentist might be more interested in staying alive than fixing someones tooth.

I don't know how to stress this enough, but the most important thing you can have when the situation goes up is common sense. Better start developing it right now or you will be easy pickings for someone that already knows how to think.

TRAINING AND INFO PACKETS

Ron (Cal) has put together an interesting training and info packet and has given us permission to distribute. He has also promised us more. The one that he has already sent contains a Navy S.E.A.L. excercize to evaluate your hometown, a list of items for a "bug-out" kit, a comprehensive reading list, and some other goodies. As soon as we can afford to have them printed up they will be offered at cost.

While The TRI-STATES GAZETTE is not an integral part of the organization represented by Ron, we do share common ground. We are making an on-going effort to contact all groups and T-S organizations. We will try to be the voice that cuts across organizational lines and will represent all T-S groups in print as much as they will let us. We would be interested in running profiles of any T-S group out there to show others not only how it can be done, but that it can be done.

HURTING BY HELPING

Definition: Famine...An extreme shortage, natural or man-made that denies food, water, medicine, and other life sustaining material to a majority of the population of a given area.

Definition: Successful Famine...An extreme shortage, natural or man-made, which causes a die-off or mass migration of such a percentage of the population that the situation is allowed to stabilize, enabling the remaining population to survive, if not prosper.

This holds true for humans as well as all the rest of God's creatures. Sure it makes you feel good to help feed a starving child. But what are you really doing? At the very best you are postponing a tragedy. At the very worst, you are making it much more of a tragedy. What happens when that child grows up, has more children, and still lacks the ability to feed itself? As the population grows, the problem grows. The problem will stabilize only after the population has decreased to the point that the resources are adequate to support the survivors. This is true whether you are talking of Somalia, Ruwanda, India, Or the U.S.A. It is a fact of nature.

Are these the rantings and ravings of some big bellied macho man? No, these are simply a plea to look at the underlying causes. Because sooner or later, we will face the same choice here.

A WISE MAN AND HIS SEVEN SONS

Once there was an old man who had seven sons. All the sons ever did was argue and fight. One day the old man summoned his sons and told them to each bring one stick. When the sons where gathered, the man took each stick, then tied all seven sticks into a bundle. Passing the bundle to each son in turn, the father challenged the son to break the sticks. When the last son had given up in defeat, the father took the bundle, untied the ropes, then broke each stick one at a time with ease. Do you know what I am getting at?

PERSONAL NOTES

William (Tex)...thanks for the kind words. Stick around, check us out. We are sure you will like the T-S philosophy

James (Okla)...Feel free to use our articles under the same terms you asked for your own. I like your outlook.

Mr. Tracy (Okla)...We highly recommend the MOTHER EARTH NEWS for information such as you are looking for. They cover it in more detail than we are capable of. How about an article from you about your own experiences?

Craig (Ill) and others...Your info stays with us and goes no further unless you give you specific OK.

David (Va)...Welcome aboard, sir.

Mike (Pa)...Would you like to share your computer info? How about sending Dean (Mo) a photocopy of your TSG?

Trapper (Okla)...We have an interesting counterview that we will be running along side your article in the next issue. Hope your move went smooth.

Ron (Cal)...We need your new phone number.

John (Wyo)...There is no way we have all the answers, but we sure can't screw it up any worse than what it already is, right?

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

As you may recall, the last Round Table Discussion question was what are you doing to improve your own security? We were deliberately vague on the term "security" because it means different things to different people. And the answers revealed this. They ran the gamut from "collecting information and know-how" to "mapping a safe way out of town", and our personal favorite, " not telling the TSG what I am doing to improve my security. Craig (Ill) had a well done piece on security that we will include in the next issue.

The next Round Table Discussion question is this. The situation has gone to hell over night. On your way out of town to wherever you are going, you run across a well armed and seemingly capable individual. Under what circumstances do you join forces and which circumstances do you simply cross paths?

WANT ADS

Ron (Cal) has a quantity of medical equipment in good shape that he would like to trade for survival gear including but not limited to knives, web gear, and assorted ammo.He also has extensive info on Nuc/Chem/Bio warfare, and weapons care and maintenance. Contact him with a list of what you have for trade.
Ron La Fontaine, 27519 Samuel Dupont Ave., San Pedro, Cal 90732.
Ron also represents a national organization if you would care to check it out.

AN INTRODUCTION IS IN ORDER

In the last issue we told you about a lady who was willing to share the knowledge that she has been able to gain concerning herbs, health, home remedies, and gardening. Sylvia learned through books, talking with herbalists, and many trips to the health food store. With a husband (me) and three children, she has had ample opportunity to put these skills to the test. While she may not be a college educated person, she is blessed with something scarcer, which is common sense. As a way of introduction, we asked her a few questions.

Q: How did you become involved with herbs and how long have you been studying them?

A:Around our house there was never a shortage of wounds, sickness, or colds. About five years ago however, I noticed that when the store bought medicine ran out, the relief did too. It seemed that the wonder remedies only offered a temporary solution and quite frequently after using them we would need to rebuild our immune systems. So I began to look for an alternative means. I started by reading THE MOTHER EARTH NEWS, and I began to experiment with different herbs. In the course of my search, I began going to natural food stores and health food stores to find the herbs. Not only did I find quite a few of the herbs that I was looking for, but I also began to form friendships with the salespeople. Believe me, you have to know your business when you work in those places. The salespeople began to recommend books which I read, then I began to go to the library to get background information.

Q: So do you feel that vitamins are the answer?

A: Vitamins are only part of the solution. Nutrition plays a very important part. Most people are shocked when they learn how little nutrition is in the food that they get down at the corner grocery store.I would think that almost everyone who buys their food there needs at least some mineral supplements. I guess that

since I will be starting from scratch with some people, I might as well start from scratch with their bodies. My first recommendation is to save up your money until you can get in to see a Naturopathic Doctor and have him (or her) do a complete blood screen to determine just what nutrients your body is lacking.

Q: What other subjects will you be covering in you column here in the TSG?

A: I will be covering a lot of subjects. Most people are not aware that herbs work best in combinations. I will cover some of those. I will also cover the herbs that one should only take on occasion. The ladies will like hearing about herbs that smooth and cleanse the skin and everyone will need to know about the healing herbs and the ones that keep mosquitoes away. That last one is important because when the time comes there will be plenty of diseases that are spread that way. In the meantime I invite all readers with questions to send them to me here at the TSG and I will answer them in one of my columns as soon as possible.

IN CLOSING

Well the last issue had five pages, single sided, double spaced. This one has six pages, single spaced. The next issue looks even better and will probably be bigger. Now I am not just saying this to toot my own horn. You can rest assured that there is an ulterior motive. If there is to be any such thing as a TRI-STATES GAZETTE then I need help. Unless someone out there wants to become my rich uncle with cancer, or maybe someone has a photo copier they would like to donate to the cause, I gotta beg for donations. Each copy of this newsletter consist of eight photocopies. The cheapest I can get it done is a nickle per shot. That adds up to .40 per copy and this issue will be mailed out to well over a hundred people. And I haven't even mentioned that I have to borrow a good friends computer. When Uncle Sam pays me back some of the money that I have loaned him over the last year, I plan on getting my own. But in the meantime...

There are a few people out there that have helped out and they know who they are. I appreciate it. Now it is everyone elses turn to feed the kitty because any other way and it turns out to be a free ride.And we all know there ain't no such thing.

till next time (Hopefully April...)
Keep your eyes open
Keep you powder dry

A NOTE TO EVERYONE: ALL PRIOR CORRESPONDENCE HAS BEEN FILED. IF YOU WISH RECEIVE THE NEXT ISSUE, WE MUST HEAR FROM YOU ASAP! THE NEXT ISSUE CONTAINS SOME EXCELENT ARTICLES THAT WILL GET YOUR ATTENTION.

KENNETH - SEE PAGE #4 "A NEW SOURCE"
WE HAVE A NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN YOUR AREA. WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN MEETING AND POSSIBLY FORMING AN AREA GROUP?
COULD YOU SEND ME A PHOTOCOPY OF THE JOHNSTONE INTERVIEW IF YOU HAVE THAT ISSUE?

RHR